

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) A program reservation-and-recording apparatus for recording a reserved program, from among a plurality of programs, in a recording medium using a program list including program identification information and describing a program time for each program of the plurality of programs, the program list being acquired from an information-providing server connected to the program reservation-and-recording apparatus via a network, the program reservation-and-recording apparatus comprising:

- a reservation-information input section configured to accept reservation information which indicates the contents of a reservation for a program;

- a reservation-information memory for storing reservation information including program identification information;

- a recording control section configured to record the reserved program in the recording medium, based on the reservation information and create an address table which manages the recording position of the recorded program associated with the program identification information;

- a program-list acquisition section configured to request and acquire the program list from the information-providing server;

- a reservation-information update section configured to update the reservation information stored in the reservation-information memory based on the acquired program list; and

- an erasure control section configured to extract and erase an unreserved program portion in the recording medium based on the program list and the address table.

wherein the program-list acquisition section acquires the program list at least at a time immediately before a program-recording completion time described in the reservation information, and

wherein the recording control section records an entire reserved program based on the program list acquired at the time immediately before the program-recording completion time, and

wherein the erasure control section erases an unreserved program portion preceding the reservation program in the recording medium based on the program list acquired at the time immediately before the program-recording completion time and the program identification information included in the reservation information stored in the reservation-information memory.

27. (Previously Presented) A program reservation-and-recording apparatus according to claim 26,

wherein the recording control section includes an address table storing section which stores an address table having recording medium identification information of the recording medium in which at least a name of the reserved program is recorded, and

wherein the erasure control section is configured to erase the unreserved program portion in the recording medium on a basis of the program list and the address table stored in the address table storing section.

28. (Previously Presented) A program reservation-and-recording apparatus according to claim 27,

wherein at least one of a program recording start time and a program recording completion time is described in the address table, and

wherein the erasure control section is further configured to determine if the unreserved program portion is recorded in the recording medium using at least one of the program recording start time and the program recording completion time.

29. (Previously Presented) A program reservation-and-recording apparatus according to claim 26, further comprising

a reservation statistical information acquire section configured to acquire reservation statistical information from a program-reservation information management server,

wherein the reservation information memory stores reservation information on a basis of the reservation statistical information acquired by the reservation statistical acquire section, and

wherein the erasure control section is further configured to determine, on a basis of the reservation information and the program list, if the unreserved program portion is recorded within a program-recording time.

30. (Previously Presented) A program reservation-and-recording apparatus according to claim 29,

wherein the reservation statistical information is a ranking of a number of reservations obtained by summing the number of the reservations of a program collected by the program reservation information management server.

31. (Previously Presented) The program reservation-and-recording apparatus according to claim 26,

wherein the program-list acquisition section further acquires the program list at a time when a program reservation is made in the reservation-information input section and at a time subsequent to it,

wherein the program list includes a program identifier, which is a code for identifying a program, for each program of the plurality of programs,

wherein the reservation-information input section includes a program-identifier extraction section configured to extract the program identifier which corresponds to the reserved program from the program list acquired at the time when the program is reserved, and configured to store the program identifier as a part of the reservation information in the reservation-information memory, and

wherein the reservation-information update section is further configured to compare the program identifier of the program for which the reservation is made and a program identifier in the program list acquired after the time when the reservation is made.

32. (Previously Presented) The program reservation-and-recording apparatus according to claim 26,

wherein a time when the program-list acquisition section further acquires the program list at a time when a program reservation is made in the reservation-information input section,

wherein the program list includes a program identifier, which is a code for identifying a program, for each program of the plurality of programs,

wherein the program identifier includes an identifier for identifying if a corresponding program is a final one of serial programs, and

wherein the reservation-information update section is further configured to erase the contents of a periodic recording reservation for the serial programs from the reservation information, based on the program identifier, after a recording of the final program is completed.

33. (Previously Presented) The program reservation-and-recording apparatus according to claim 26, further comprising:

an apparatus-identifier memory configured to store an apparatus identifier for identifying the program reservation-and-recording apparatus itself; and

an apparatus-identifier transmission section configured to transmit the apparatus identifier to the information-providing server when communication is executed between the program reservation-and-recording apparatus and the information-providing server.

34. (Previously Presented) A program reservation-and-recording system comprising:

a plurality of the program reservation-and-recording apparatuses according to claim 26; and

an information-providing server connected via a network to the plurality of program reservation-and-recording apparatuses, the information-providing server being configured to send the program list to respective program reservation-and-recording apparatuses of the plurality of program reservation-and-recording apparatuses in response to a request.

35. (Currently Amended) A program reservation-and-recording apparatus for recording a reserved program, from among a plurality of programs, in a recording medium using a program list describing a program time for each program of the plurality of programs, the program list being acquired from an information-providing server connected to the program reservation-and-recording apparatus via a network and including at least program identification information, a start time, and a completion time, for each program,

the program reservation-and-recording apparatus comprising:

a reservation-information input section configured to accept reservation information which is based on the program list and indicates the contents of a reservation for a program;

a reservation-information memory for storing reservation information including program identification information;

a recording control section configured to record the reserved program in the recording medium, based on the reservation information and create an address table which manages the recording position of the recorded program associated with the program identification information;

a program-list acquisition section configured to request and acquire the program list from the information-providing server at least at a time after a program-recording completion time described in the reservation information;

a reservation-information update section configured to update the reservation information stored in the reservation-information memory based on the acquired program list;

a program division ~~section~~^{means} configured to divide the reserved program stored in the recording medium, based on comparison between the program identification information included in the reservation information stored in the reservation-information memory and the program identification information of the program list acquired at the time after the program-recording completion time, within a program-recording time in accordance with the program identification information described in the program list in a chronological order; and

an erasure control section configured to determine, based on the program list acquired at the time after the program-recording completion time, if an unreserved program portion is stored within the recording of the reserved program in the recording medium, and configured to extract and erase the unreserved program portion in the recording medium based on the program list and the address table,

wherein an actual program time of the reserved program and program identification information of the reserved program are described in chronological order in the program list acquired at the time after the program-recording completion time.

36. (Previously Presented) A program reservation-and-recording apparatus according to claim 35,

wherein the recording control section includes an address table storing section which stores an address table having recording medium identification information of the recording medium in which at least a name of the reserved program is recorded, and

wherein the erasure control section is configured to erase the unreserved program portion in the recording medium on a basis of the program list and the address table stored in the address table storing section.

37. (Previously Presented) A program reservation-and-recording apparatus according to claim 36,

wherein at least one of a program recording start time and a program recording completion time is described in the address table, and

wherein the erasure control section is further configured to determine if the unreserved program portion is recorded in the recording medium using at least one of the program recording start time and the program recording completion time.

38. (Previously Presented) A program reservation-and-recording apparatus according to claim 35, further comprising

a reservation statistical information acquire section configured to acquire reservation statistical information from a program-reservation information management server,

wherein the reservation information memory stores reservation information on a basis of the reservation statistical information acquired by the reservation statistical acquire section, and

wherein the erasure control section is further configured to determine, on a basis of the reservation information and the program list, if the unreserved program portion is recorded within the program-recording time.

39. (Previously Presented) A program reservation-and-recording apparatus according to claim 38,

wherein the reservation statistical information is a ranking of a number of reservations obtained by summing the number of the reservations of a program collected by the program reservation information management server.

40. (Previously Presented) The program reservation-and-recording apparatus according to claim 35,

wherein the program-list acquisition section further acquires the program list at a time when a program reservation is made in the reservation-information input section and at a time subsequent to it,

wherein the program list includes a program identifier, which is a code for identifying a program, for each program of the plurality of programs,

wherein the reservation-information input section includes a program-identifier extraction section configured to extract the program identifier which corresponds to the reserved program from the program list acquired at the time when the program is reserved, and configured to store the program identifier as a part of the reservation information in the reservation-information memory, and

wherein the reservation-information update section is further configured to compare the program identifier of the program for which the reservation is made and a program identifier in the program list acquired after the time when the reservation is made.

41. (Previously Presented) The program reservation-and-recording apparatus according to claim 35,

wherein a time when the program-list acquisition section further acquires the program list at a time when a program reservation is made in the reservation-information input section,

wherein the program list includes a program identifier, which is a code for identifying a program, for each program of the plurality of programs,

wherein the program identifier includes an identifier for identifying if a corresponding program is a final one of serial programs, and

wherein the reservation-information update section is further configured to erase the contents of a periodic recording reservation for the serial programs from the reservation information, based on the program identifier, after a recording of the final program is completed.

42. (Previously Presented) The program reservation-and-recording apparatus according to claim 35, further comprising:

an apparatus-identifier memory configured to store an apparatus identifier for identifying the program reservation-and-recording apparatus itself; and

an apparatus-identifier transmission section configured to transmit the apparatus identifier to the information-providing server when communication is executed between the program reservation-and-recording apparatus and the information-providing server.

43. (Previously Presented) A program reservation-and-recording system comprising:

a plurality of the program reservation-and-recording apparatuses according to claim 35;
and

an information-providing server connected via a network to the plurality of program reservation-and-recording apparatuses, the information-providing server being configured to send the program list to respective program reservation-and-recording apparatuses of the plurality of program reservation-and-recording apparatuses in response to a request.